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Thursday, October 25, 2012

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Hurricane Sandy hits jamaica

MIAMI (AFP) - The crowded Jamaican capital took a direct hit yesterday from Hurricane Sandy as hundreds took refuge in emergency shelters and poor slum dwellers in Kingston's sprawling shantytowns hunkered down.

Jamaican Prime Minister Portia Simpson cut short a visit to Canada and rushed home before the island's international airports closed and as police ordered a 48-hour curfew in major towns for safety and to deter looters.

The eye of Sandy made landfall five miles (seven km.) south of Kingston -- home to one million of Jamaica's 2.7

million inhabitants -- at 3 pm local time, packing sustained winds of 80 miles per hour.

The storm was moving north at 14 miles per hour, according to the Miami-based National Hurricane Center, which warned that the situation in Jamaica was deteriorating and Sandy could strengthen further.

The forecast map shows Sandy reaching eastern Cuba by early today before heading to the Bahamas. In Cuba, authorities have issued a hurricane warning for more than half the country, including the US naval base at Guantanamo where terror suspects are held.

Angelique Lacle shares her commitment to Aruba!

ORANJESTAD -- Aruba Tourism Authority is continuing their tourism awareness campaign. They have been putting the focus on different personalities in our tourism community. This time the focus is on Angelique Lacle!

Angelique is the proud winner of the prestigious Shoco Award as "Tour guide of the Year 2011."

She is very passionate about her work and of the role she plays in our tourism industry.

Angelique has been working in the tourism sector for the past 28 years. As narrator on the Sea-World Explorer she works from morning until afternoon without any regard for the number of trips the ship makes during the day. She always has the same positive attitude, energy and lovely broad smile. Angelique says she draws her strength and smiles from the happy vacationing tourists she feels privileged to serve every day.

She says she concentrates on service, service, and service! She was pleased to have taken the recent certification program offered by the government through the Enseñansa Pa Empleo.

Angelique, like most Arubans, speaks four languages, and has learned to say "Thank You" in 35 languages! She communicates with ease in any one of the four languages to suit the visitor. Angelique says, "Our commitment should be to take care of our nature. She agrees with someone who said that the behavior of hu-



mankind will depend on the environment in which we live. Angelique is the co-pilot on the Atlantis Submarine for the past 10 years.

Angelique shares that she is committed, her personal commitment is to be a better person everyday and to treat everyone with respect. To give the best possible service, live in peace and be happy, be amiable and good with everyone."

Ex-Goldman director jailed for insider dealing

NEW YORK (AFP) - Former Goldman Sachs board member Rajat Gupta, a pillar of the New York financial establishment, was sentenced yesterday to two years in jail and fined \$5 million for insider trading.

US District Judge Jed Rakoff gave a much more lenient sentence than the 10-year stretch requested by government prosecutors, although he rejected a defense request for a community service sentence.

Gupta, who was ordered to turn himself in on December 11, was solemn, but showed no emotion as he heard his fate.

Rakoff said Gupta, a major philanthropist who has been a leader in fighting malaria in Africa and in helping disadvantaged youths, "deserves credit."

The Manhattan federal judge noted that several jurors cried as they delivered their guilty verdict "because they recognized this was a person with some very good attributes."

But he added that America's senior executives committing insider trading "must be made to understand that when you get caught, you will go to jail."

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Report on Legal status ruling of teachers is ready

Last Monday morning, the Minister of Education, Arthur Dowers, announced that the report prepared by KPMG regarding the legal status ruling on teachers is ready with every teacher's function delineated and clearly described.

Reportedly the process began 11 years ago when the then Minister of Education signed a document requesting an analysis of a legal status ruling. The work was begun under the watch of Mrs. Mary Wever-Lacle, but for some reason, stopped. It wasn't until in 2010, under Dower's watch that the process was rekindled. A commission was instituted under Brigitte Dijkhoff who works as support staff for Minister Dowers. Thereafter the KPMG firm was brought in to complete the analysis and to prepare and produce the reports.

According to Dowers, in the process they involved the teachers union, SIMAR, as well as the different school boards. The union supports the content of the analysis.



He indicated that the new SIMAR board will be invited to deliberate over the report. Dowers said that different other experts were also part of the deliberations and discussions on the topic.

The results of the report describes the work of teachers in detail with a much more just description which is more in line with what is stipulated in other countries within the Dutch Kingdom.

They are now at the point of the implementation, as well as designing a management structure based on the results of the analysis, according to the Minister Dowers.

Marriott organizes fun walk to support Fundacion Pa Nos Comunidad

October 26, 5 km from Marriott to Arashi

In the week of October 22-26 Marriott Sales teams worldwide are celebrating Global Customer Appreciation Week (GCAW), thanking their local and international clients for their business and support.

A part of the GCAW Marriott focuses on their Spirit to Serve Our Communities efforts, giving back to the local community. The Aruba Marriott has organized a 5 km fun walk on Friday October 26 at 5:00 pm from the Marriott Resort to Arashi and back. The zumba warm up starts at 5:00 pm followed by the fun walk at 5:30 pm.

Participants can sign up at the IBISA office by Certified. The contribution is 10 Aruban florin and includes a T shirt, sports bottle and refreshments. The profits for the caminata will be donated to the Fundacion Pa Nos Comunidad (FPNC). The FPNC is a non-profit organization who helps the less fortunate in Aruba, providing them food and clothing. Visitors of Aruba are wel-



Funwalk T shirts

come to join and are able to sign up at the Marriott Resort front desk.

The registration will take place at 4:30 pm on Friday October 26 at the Marriott Ballroom. Raffle tickets will be handed out and participants can win great door prizes such as dinner certificates and weekend stays.

The Aruba Marriott invites all to participate and looks forward to a great Fun Walk for a good cause!



Marriott PR Manager Keirsin Tjon Pian Gi (r) with Dir. of FPNC Indira Stamper.

New law to apply to exploration of petroleum in Aruban waters

ORANJESTAD -- Back in 1989 and 1990, the expectation for discovering petroleum in Aruba's territorial waters was very high. Three different companies explored that possibility, each drilled separate oil wells, but none succeeded in finding neither crude nor gas. All the wells resulted in being dry. The drilling was done in relatively shallow water and the result was that the rocks where crude is formed in the subsoil resulted in containing a very low grade of organic material. Also, the temperature of the rocks was insufficient to convert the or-

ganic material into petroleum.

In the conclusion of the report back then, mention was made that there is great possibility for finding petroleum on the north side and topside of Aruba. The three companies completed their work with Aruba and left. In 2006, the government of Aruba decided to establish a local petroleum company, namely, the Compania Aruba di Petroleo NV (CAP). The reason for this was that the price of petroleum products continues to rise and the technology for petroleum exploration in the deep ocean

has advanced considerably.

At the different sites where they had conducted tests in the past where nothing was discovered, resulted in having petroleum through the use of the modern technology. In 2009, Venezuela explored different wells in their territorial waters, and three of the four wells that they dug resulted in having large reserves of natural gas. One of the wells they tested in the Cardon IV block resulted in being one of the largest wells ever discovered in the last years.

Continued on page 5

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Tiara Air Aruba inaugural jet flights departs today



Alejandro Muyale and Minister Oduber

Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Transport & Labor, Otmar Oduber was very pleased to share a champagne toast in the colors of Tiara Air Aruba, blue and yellow, with airline CEO Alejandro Muyale and Sjeidy Feliciano of the Aruba Tourism Authority. Island dignitaries and media also raised a glass in celebration that an Aruban owned and based airline will again offer round trip jet service from the island to several locations.

The official announcement was made on Tuesday, October 23, at Windows on Aruba in the Divi Links clubhouse, exactly 12 years to the day that the last jet flight, from Aruba's

first native airline, Air Aruba, was made. Their final flight had been on October 23, 2000.

Tiara Air Aruba CEO Muyale is extremely proud to see his airline grow since 2005 from one Shorts 360 two-prop plane flying to Punto Fijo, Venezuela to now offer international jet service. "We have doubled our present capacity with the implementation of this service," he informed the gathering. "It wasn't easy, but it is well worth to be able to open the island to increased arrivals from some very important gateways. We are proud to offer island access to new destinations with direct flights by an Aruban owned company, on a plane bearing the

official Aruba logo."

The inaugural passenger flight of the Tiara Air Aruba Boeing 737-330 will depart Reina Beatrix Airport today at 11:15 AM, with 141 on board. It is bound for Medellin, Colombia with a stop in Armenia, on the return flight. On November 9, flights to Caracas will begin. November 11, flights to Maracaibo will commence and on November 16, the first flights for Ft. Lauderdale, Florida will depart. The end of November, will start service to Sint Maarten, in time for their carnival events. Mr. Muyale indicated there was enormous interest in this direct service.

Both Minister Oduber and



Alejandro Muyale and Sjeidy Feliciano of ATA

Ms. Feliciano from the ATA expressed how important the Tiara Air flights are to opening up new markets for Aruba in Latin America. "Offering this

service to Aruba, where Latin American residents can then transfer to the daily flight to Europe, fits in with the current administration's plan to diversify Aruba's economy," said the Minister. "We hope to see Aruba become a hub between the region and Europe, allowing access to heretofore inaccessible destinations for travelers from both areas."

The intended plan, announced more than 18 months ago, is for Tiara Air to obtain two Boeing 737-330 planes, which will further augment service to other gateways, such as Boston.



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General permits rules for Gaita and/or Dande groups for End of the Year celebrations

ORANJESTAD – The Aruba Chief of Police, Mr. A.E. Richardson, wishes to bring to the attention of the public the following:

As of November 2, 2012 until December 31, 2012, the Aruba Police Department will start giving general permits for Gaita, Folkloric and/or Dande groups, so they can perform in front of establishments and businesses.

However, obtaining a permit has certain conditions. Before any group applies for a permit, a person in charge of the group must contact the section for Planning and Information of the Police Force. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 12 noon and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

The contact persons are:

District I Oranjestad, Mr. Richard Kramers tel. 5824000;

District II Noord, Mr. Willem Paesch tel. 5870009;

District III San Nicolas, Mr. Bernardo Maduro tel. 5845000; and

District IV Santa Cruz, Mr. Eddie Maduro tel. 5870009;

On the weekends these if-fu-ers are available via the Police Central Station tel.

100.

These contact persons will check if the venue of the presentation is appropriate or not.

After receiving a permit, the conditions are as follows:

1. The permit is valid ONLY for the month of November and December 2012

2. Gaita, Aguinaldo and/or Gaita groups can perform until 10:00 p.m.

3. Under no circumstance must the traffic be obstructed or become dangerous

4. The venue must be cleaned after the presentation, there can be no garbage left behind on the public road.

5. The groups may not perform in the vicinity of a church during mass. The Dr. Horacio E. Oduber Hospital, elderly homes or other institution that give medical care are also prohibited areas, as is the vicinity of a gas station

6. All police orders related to public order must be obeyed immediately.

Police officers are authorized to stop an event whenever public order requires it, or if any of the abovementioned conditions are breached.

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Pink Golf Tournament to benefit Mary Joan Foundation

October is Breast Cancer Month and every year Divi Links and Divi Pro Shop holds an event to raise fund for Aruba's Mary Joan Foundation. The foundation's mission is to create an easily accessible, holistic and integrated, patient and survivor friendly care system for breast cancer in Aruba.

This year Divi Pro Shop sold golf balls with pink ribbons on them to raise funds and awareness. On Saturday, October 20, the shop organized a tremendous Pink Golf Tournament.

Divi Pro Shop handed over the proceeds from the tournament to Mary Joan Foundation representatives, enabling the foundation to continue with their valuable work. Volunteers give support and instill awareness among the Aruban community regarding how to detect breast cancer on time and so save lives.

Receiving the check were Mrs. Enrita Werleman, Mrs. Rosie Corenti-Waliswever and Mrs. Esther Farro, the last two being cancer survivors.

Mary Joan Foundation



extends its gratitude to the organizers and all the participants of the Pink Golf

Tournament for this beautiful gesture.

Caribbean Festival is tonight!



SAN NICOLAS -- Every Thursday evening, islanders flock to San Nicolas to enjoy the fabulous bargains and entertainment of the Caribbean Festival, a mix of Aruban and Caribbean traditions kept alive by the multi-cultural make up of Aruba's "Sunrise City."

Originally populated by the thousands that came from all over the Caribbean to work at the refinery, the town has savored and preserved the food, music and dance that many brought with them from their various regions. The festival, from 6:00 to 9:15 p.m., revels in the diverse background of San Nicolas, offering unique dishes and beverages, along with a full evening of island entertainment.

A full roster of some of Aruba's finest criollo entertainers follows including folkloric musical groups, dance groups solo singers, limbo dance by "Miguel Philips" and Carnival show by "Carna-Aruba," and this is only on the main stage!

Scattered throughout the main street of San Nicolas are performance areas surround by seating where you can settle in with an island snack or dinner, including music by steel pan and Brass band."

Island visitors can enjoy the Caribbean festival as part of a complete package available at all De Palm and concierge desks, which include transportation. You can customize your evening by purchasing with or without food and refreshments. A variety of local handicrafts are offered for sale and the event guarantees a good time for all, with an authentic introduction to the island experience.

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New law to apply to exploration of petroleum...

Continued from page 2

This particular well is located about 100km from Aruba's territorial waters. Hence, there is sufficient reason for Aruba to make intent on exploring for petroleum in our territorial waters, according to Parliamentarian, Donny Rasmijn. However, before CAP can embark on entering into contract agreements with companies to do explorations, we must actualize different laws in our fiscal system.

Some of the laws to be adapted, for example, are the Petroleum Law, the Profit Tax

Law, the Law on Tax Dividends, Law on the BBO, Law on Importation and the Law on Property Taxes.

Before a company can discover petroleum and produce this, they must invest large sums in the operation of heavy and sophisticated equipment. This is especially so if they are to operate out in profound seas such as the ocean north of Aruba, with lots of operational risks in the process. The cost for such an operation is between 60 to 90 million dollars! The investment that the com-

pany makes before they can produce petroleum becomes lost if they don't find any reserves that are economically viable to produce. Since Aruba, as is the case with most other countries, that have discovered petroleum, do not have the resources to do the exploration, Aruba must make changes in our fiscal laws to attract companies who have the resources and the expertise to do this work.

The law to make the changes has reached the Aruban Parliament on October

12th and Parliament is now working on the questions which should be ready by this Friday. These questions will then be approved and sent to the government for answers. After this, the law will be presented to Parliament for approval and implementation. After this, CAP can sign contracts with companies to begin the exploration immediately.

It is hoped that, with God's help, the exploration can begin even before the end of this year or at least by the first quarter of 2013, according to Rasmijn.

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Clinton warns against power vacuum in Lebanon

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton warned yesterday that Syria would exploit any power vacuum in Lebanon, worsening tensions in the Middle East after a deadly bomb blast in Beirut.

"We don't want to see a vacuum of legitimate political authority that could then be taken advantage of by the Syrians or by others that could create even greater instability and violence," Clinton told a news conference.

"We call on all parties in Lebanon to support the process that President Michel Sleiman is leading to choose a responsible effective, government that can address the threats that Lebanon faces and hold accountable those responsible for last week's bombing."

The car bombing in Beirut killed police intelligence chief

General Wissam al-Hassan, who led a series of probes linking the regime of Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to political assassinations in Lebanon.

Clinton said the United States would not prejudice the outcome of Sleiman's call for all-party talks on forming a new government.

"This must be a Lebanese process," she said.

"But the Lebanese people deserve so much better. They deserve to live in peace and they deserve to have a government that reflects their aspirations, not acts as proxies and agents for outside forces."

The bombing has raised fears about unrest in Lebanon, which is divided between supporters and opponents of Assad, whose country occupied its small neighbor for nearly 30 years.

Hassan's murder also

plunged Lebanon into political crisis, with a Syria-hostile opposition calling for the resignation of the government dominated by the Syrian-backed Hezbollah.

The opposition -- which has blamed Damascus for Hassan's killing -- has announced that its delegates would boycott all meetings with the government of Prime Minister Najib Mikati until he steps down.

Mikati expressed a desire to step down but said Saturday he would stay at Sleiman's request in the "national interest."

Sleiman is now canvassing political leaders to assess whether they are prepared to join a dialogue.

While it supports the opposition, the international community reacted by backing Mikati amid fears of a political void.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Romney backs Republican despite rape remark

RENO (AFP) - White House hopeful Mitt Romney maintained support for fellow Republican Richard Mourdock yesterday despite the Senate candidate saying pregnancy from rape is something "God intended."

Murdock, an anti-abortion candidate for Senate from Indiana, triggered an uproar with his comments Tuesday during a political debate and gave President Barack Obama a new opening to attack Romney's record on women's rights less than two weeks before the November 6 election.

"Governor Romney disagrees with Richard Mourdock, and Mr. Mourdock's comments do not reflect governor Romney's views," Romney campaign spokeswoman Andrea Saul said in a statement. "We disagree on the policy regarding exceptions for rape and incest but still support him."

Romney, who is attending a rally in Reno, Nevada yesterday, has said he would be a "pro-life president" if elected, and is opposed to abortion except in the cases of rape, incest or threat to the life of the mother.

But the Mourdock controversy, and Romney's refusal to stop backing him, highlights a potentially critical clash over women's rights in the last leg of a brutal campaign.

With the presidential candidates locked in a virtual tie,

women voters in swing states could decide the election. The fresh row over abortion also distracts from Romney's focus on the sluggish US economy.

Obama's campaign has seized on the comments and quickly tried to link Romney to such thinking.

"The president felt those comments were outrageous and demeaning to women," campaign spokeswoman Jen Psaki said.

"This is a reminder that a Republican Congress working with a Republican president Mitt Romney would feel that women should not be able to make choices about their own health care."

She said women needed to consider the potential for abortion rights to erode under a Romney administration.

Speaking at a Senate debate late Tuesday, Mourdock said he believed life begins at conception and opposed abortion in all cases except when the mother's life was in danger.

"I struggled with it myself for a long time, but I came to realize life is that gift from God, and I think even when life begins in that horrible situation of rape, that it is something that God intended to happen," he said.

Murdock tried to clarify his words, later saying "God creates life and that was my point. God does not want rape, and by no means was I suggesting that he does."

Strong quake strikes Costa Rica



SAN JOSE - A strong 6.6-magnitude earthquake struck Costa Rica late Tuesday, US seismologists said, but there was no threat of a destructive widespread tsunami, and no immediate reports of victims or damage.

The epicentre of the quake, which struck at 6:45 pm, was

located over land, 140 kilometers west of the capital San Jose, but only 10 kilometers from the town of Hojancha, the US Geological Survey said.

Local seismologists measured the quake at 6.2 on the Richter scale.

It struck at a depth of 40 kilometers.



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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Tymoshenko daughter warns of 'Yanukovich dictatorship'

GENEVA (AFP) - The daughter of Ukraine's jailed and ailing ex-prime minister Yulia Tymoshenko warned yesterday that the weekend parliamentary elections in the former Soviet state could lead to an irreversible dictatorship under President Viktor Yanukovich.

"If the democratic world and the observer missions do not state at the end of the day that Sunday's elections are not free and not fair, we might see the legitimisation of... a Yanukovich dictatorship," Yevgenia Tymoshenko told reporters in Geneva.

"And then it will be really too late to save the Ukraine democracy," she said. "The moment of truth is now."

She said Sunday's elections gave international observers and leaders a unique opportunity to "really name everything by its true name and stop the development of the dictatorship".

Her comments came just four days ahead of the first national vote in the country since

Yanukovich beat Tymoshenko in a bitterly contested 2010 presidential poll that was soon followed by charges against the former prime minister.

Tymoshenko, 51, was sentenced to seven years in prison last October on abuse of office charges that both she and Western states view as a politically motivated bid to sideline her from politics, and which her daughter yesterday described as "a shameful show trial".

Considered a promoter of Western-leaning policies while prime minister before the 2010 vote, Tymoshenko now lobbies for a loose opposition coalition from a state hospital where she is being treated for back problems.

She herself however has been barred from taking part in Sunday's vote.

Studies suggest that no more than nine percent of Ukrainians are expecting a fair ballot and 47 percent say they would not be surprised to find widescale or significant fraud.

Colombian police free kidnapped US businessman

BOGOTA (AFP) - Police in Colombia freed an American businessman yesterday who was kidnapped this month and held for a \$3 million ransom.

Colombian-born Fabian Arroyave was abducted October 4 in Medellin, 400 kilometers (250 miles) northwest of Bogota, by gun-toting men wearing police uniforms.

He was freed in Caldas on the outskirts of Medellin, Colombia's second largest city, by agents of an anti-kidnapping and extortion squad.

These officers had concluded that kidnappers drove the hostage around at certain times of day in a bulletproof vehicle for him to withdraw cash from automated teller machines and give it to them, a police statement said.

One kidnapper was arrested.

Arroyave has lived in the United States for the past 11 years.

Envoy says Syria, most rebels agree to truce

DAMASCUS (AFP) - Peace envoy Lakhdar Brahimi said yesterday that Syria and "most" rebel chiefs have agreed to a truce this week, boosting hopes of a breakthrough in the conflict, but the main armed opposition group was sceptical.

Syria said it was studying the UN-Arab League envoy's initiative for a four-day ceasefire during the Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha and would announce its decision today, the day before it is supposed to take effect.

"The Syrian government has agreed to a ceasefire" during Eid, Brahimi said, adding "most" rebel leaders contacted said they also would observe it.

"If we succeed with this modest initiative, a longer ceasefire can be built" that would allow the launch of a political process, said the Algerian diplomat.

Brahimi has touted his ceasefire initiative for weeks, but as the date for its implementation fast approaches, there has been no let up in the deadly violence.

The Syrian Observatory for Human Rights said at least 142 people were killed across Syria yesterday, 20 of them civilians including women



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A woman walks past late kung fu legend Bruce Lee's old home in Hong Kong on October 24, 2012. The multi-million dollar house that once belonged to one of the most influential martial arts actors of all time, Bruce Lee, is up for sale for \$23 million after plans to turn the property into a museum fell through. The 460 square-meter two-storey house in Hong Kong's upscale residential district of Kowloon Tong had been turned into a short-stay 'love hotel' with rooms rented for \$25 an hour. The 90-year-old billionaire who owns the mansion said he decided to sell it after talks with the government for the museum collapsed last year, AFP reported.

and children massacred in Douma, a rebel-held town near Damascus.

As the bloodshed continued, Brahimi told the UN Security Council a truce would be "small step" but he was unsure if it would hold, according to diplomats.

Brahimi appealed for unanimous support, warning the 15-nation council a new failure among its divided members would cause the 19-month civil war to spread, they told AFP.

The UN Security Council, for his side, called on the Syrian government and opposition to heed Brahimi's appeal for a ceasefire in their 19-month-old war.

A statement agreed by the 15-member body urged major powers and countries around Syria to "use their influence" on the rival sides to push for the ceasefire during a Muslim holiday starting Friday.

The council called on all sides, in particular on the Syrian government "as the stronger party," to agree to Brahimi's initiative," said the statement.

The council reaffirmed a demand for the Syrian government to allow "full and unimpeded humanitarian access" to cities where activists

say more than 35,000 people have been killed in the past 19 months of fighting.

It said all sides must work toward a "sustainable cessation of all violence" so that a political transition can start.

But, the rebel Free Syrian Army said it would only stop fighting if Assad's forces do so first, and the jihadist militant Al-Nusra Front refused to lay down its weapons.

"The FSA will stop firing if the regime stops," military council chief General Mustafa al-Sheikh told AFP by telephone. However, he added: "It is impossible that the regime will implement the truce, even if it says it will."

The Al-Nusra Front, which has claimed suicide bombings and taken part in clashes with the army, said it would not be bound by the call for a truce.

"There is no truce between us and this transgressing regime that is shedding the blood of Muslims," it said in a statement posted on the Internet, quoted by SITE Intelligence Group.

In Moscow, Russia's top general said the rebels had secured shoulder-launched missile systems capable of shooting down aircraft, including US-made Stingers.

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Sweden to give undocumented children access to education



STOCKHOLM (AFP) - Undocumented children in Sweden will be allowed to go to school as of July 1 next year, the Swedish government announced on Wednesday after striking a deal with the opposition Green Party.

"Children without a residency permit will have the right to education" from kindergarten to secondary school, it said in a statement.

Sweden's use of personal identity numbers has essentially barred children of illegal immigrants from public education, and schools have been required to contact police if registration requests were made for an undocumented child.

The new law scraps that requirement, but schooling will still not be mandatory for children of illegal immigrants.

"All children have the right to go to school ... and their right (to do so) will become legal," Education Minister Jan Björklund said at a press conference.

For undocumented children, going to school "means being normal, (it brings) stability, routines to an often precarious existence," said the Green Party's spokeswoman on immigration, Maria Ferm.

The government will provide an annual budget of 50 million kronor (5.7 million euros or \$7.4 million) starting in 2014, to help the municipalities where the children go to school. Half the annual amount has been set aside for next year.

Between 2,000 and 3,000 children will be affected by the new law, according to Björklund.

Health & Living

Dutch children could have three or more parents

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Dutch kids may soon be able to have three or more mothers or fathers after the government said it was seeking to enshrine parenting rights for the Netherlands' 25,000 children in gay families.

"The justice ministry is going to investigate and see what the possibilities are for recognising three parents or more per family," ministry spokesman Wiebe Alkema told AFP on Wednesday.

The left-wing Green party, but also the Liberal VVD and the Labour PvdA parties that won last month's parliamentary election, requested the report with a view to amending a lesbian parenting bill currently before parliament.

The Netherlands was the first country to legalise gay marriage in 2001 and when a gay or lesbian couple has a child, another parent is by biological necessity involved.

But, said Green MP Liesbeth van Tongeren, it is also essential to recognise the rights of non-biological parents, including step-parents.

"Currently parenthood in the eyes of the law is almost always the consequence of bio-

logical parenthood," her party said in a statement, stressing that "this does not represent the diversity of families in the Netherlands."

"Often enough, the father of a child with lesbian parents also plays a role in the life of the child," she said.

"How a family lives is more important than the biological lineage," Van Tongeren added. "The bill should take into account what's best for all concerned."

There is currently no legal recognition in the Netherlands for a child's step-parents or for sperm donors who would like to be involved in the life of their child.

Junior justice minister Fred Tevenen noted in parliament however that there were potentially many practical objections to changing the law and that he would await the report's conclusions.

Official statistics say that by the end of 2010, 14,813 homosexual couples were married in the Netherlands, where around a million of the country's 16.7 million inhabitants are homosexual, according to gay rights group COC.

Italy bans use of three Novartis flu vaccines

ROME (AFP) - The Italian health ministry said on Wednesday it has banned the sale and use of several flu vaccines produced by Swiss drugs group Novartis pending tests into possible side-effects.

"The health ministry and the Italian medicines agency (AIFA) have decided to take the precaution of banning immediately the use of the vaccines" Aggripal, Fluad and

Influpozzi, it said.

On the basis of information supplied by Novartis, AIFA "has decided that it is necessary to carry out further tests regarding the quality and the safety" of the vaccines, which "can produce collateral effects," the statement said.

Citizens are advised not to buy or use the drugs until further notice, the ministry said.



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Sci-Tech

Dutch court says Samsung not infringing Apple patent

THE HAGUE (AFP) - A Dutch court rejected on Wednesday a suit brought by Apple claiming that Samsung of South Korean had infringed its patent by using certain multi-touch techniques on smart phones and tablets.

"The court rules that Samsung with its Galaxy products

does not infringe on" Apple's multi-touch patent, the ruling said of Samsung's Galaxy line of smart phones and tablets.

The patent, EP 948, relates to when touchscreens can or cannot identify simultaneous multiple touches.

The court in The Hague ordered Apple to pay legal

costs of around 324,000 euros (\$421,000).

The ruling was the latest chapter in an ongoing battle between the US and South Korean electronics giants being fought in courts around the world.

A Dutch court in June ruled that Apple had infringed on a patent held by Samsung and ordered the US computer giant to pay an unspecified amount of damages.

Apple, which in August won a US jury award of more than \$1 billion for patent infringement, is seeking to ban various Samsung phones and tablets on the basis of that verdict.



-- Hawaii, The lava lake inside Halema'uma'u crater, at the top of Mount Kilauea in Hawaii, is closer than ever to reaching the crater floor and spilling out on it, the U.S. Geological Survey said. For the past several months, the lava lake has been slowly rising. The summit itself has been slowly inflating since early August. The lava lake rises and falls as magma levels change within the volcano. The connection between the vent and volcano is the reason the USGS is also keeping an eye on Kilauea's eastern rift zone. The USGS has a live webcam trained on the lava lake, accessed through the Hawaii Volcano Observatory's site.

October is
Breast
Cancer
Awareness
Month



-- Watching someone else yawn can be a one-way ticket to doing the same. Now, research finds that the same is true for dogs — but not puppies. In fact, dogs become more susceptible to the contagion of yawning as they age, a pattern that holds true for human children, as well. Kids begin to yawn in response to seeing others yawn at around age 4, the same time they become adept at understanding another's emotions. A similar process might underlie contagious yawning in dogs, according to the new study, published online Oct. 18 in the journal *Animal Cognition*.

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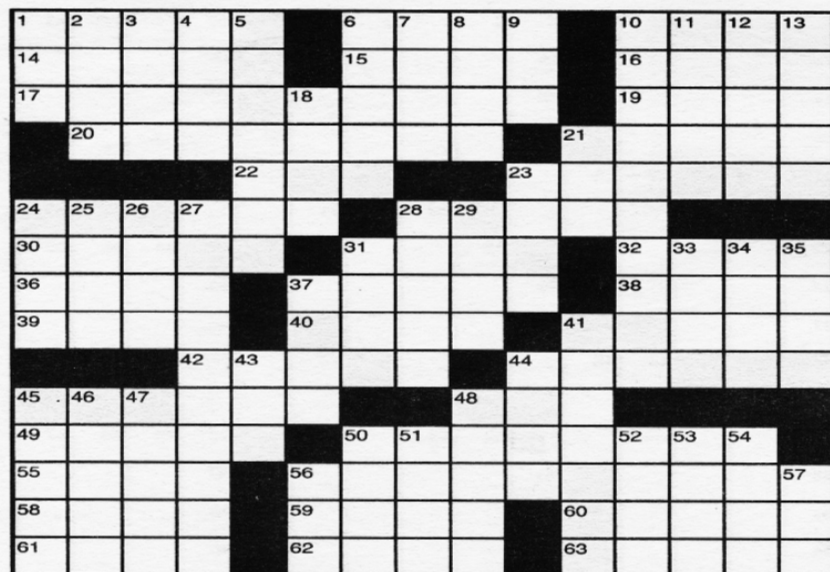
1. "The Moffatts" author Eleanor
6. High pile rug
10. Health salons
14. Astaire sidekick Eric
15. Flooring
16. Tincture
17. Colorado River structure
19. Not fooled by
20. Pacts
21. Become a contestant
22. Use, as resources
23. Gratify
24. Musical genre
28. Cheeky
30. Leers
31. Prejudice
32. Israeli Abba
36. Thrash

37. Tropical fruit
38. Uh-uh
39. Belgrade resident
40. Raw minerals
41. Lace tip
42. Prying tool
44. Sucks dry
45. Dolman
48. Lisbon street
49. Gettysburg victor
50. Solomon, for one
55. Vase handle
56. As low as one can go
58. Hwys.
59. Fluish feeling
60. "The _____ December" (Bellow)
61. Reggae's Peter
62. Pea casings
63. Seaside

DOWN

1. Lyricist Fred ("Cabaret")
2. Reno opening
3. Guided sojourn
4. He created Perry and Della
5. Calms down
6. Type of poker or mine
7. Conceal
8. Expression of regret
9. Precious bauble
10. Salisbury Plain attraction
11. One of a 1492 trio
12. Contributes to the kitty

13. Computer command
18. List abbr.
21. Suspended transports
23. Mexican moolah
24. "The _____ Must Be Crazy" (1981 film)
25. Dreadful monster
26. Belittling remark
27. Exterior wall finish
28. More slender
29. Opposite of riches
31. Expose
33. Trunk part
34. Played "monkey see, monkey do"
35. Snoods
37. "_____ It On Over" (Hank Williams)
41. Way to order pie
43. First mother
44. Holland export
45. _____ aleck
46. Slowly, in music
47. Lets up
48. Does an autumn job
50. Walt Kelly comic
51. Gulf war weapon
52. Journey, to Caesar
53. "The Man"
54. Vocal inflection
56. Knock
57. Submissions to eds.



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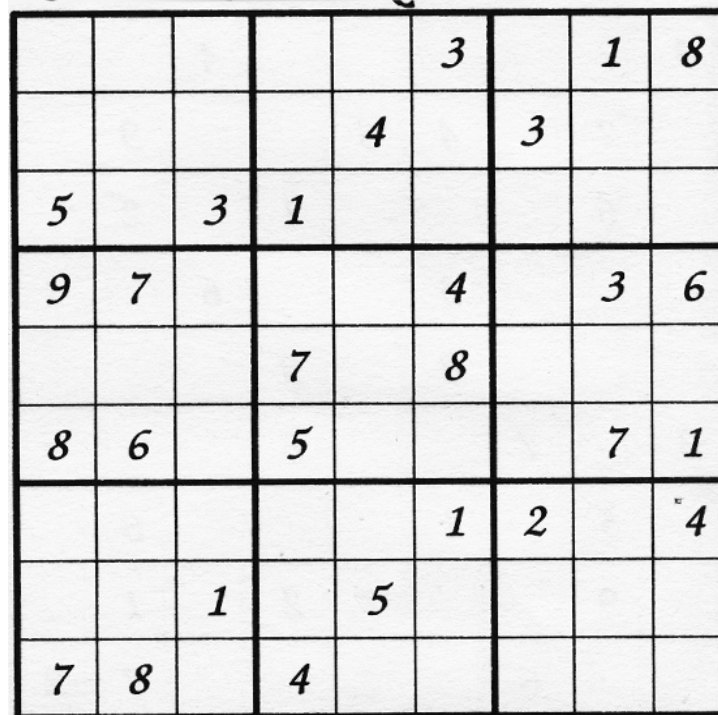
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

6	8	1	7	6	9	9	8	4
6	8	1	7	6	9	9	8	4
4	9	2	1	7	8	6	5	3
1	4	7	6	5	2	9	8	3
5	2	6	8	9	4	7	1	3
9	3	8	4	1	7	5	2	6
2	7	9	4	8	1	6	5	3
4	6	5	3	9	8	1	7	2
8	1	5	2	6	4	7	9	3

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9




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Dutch Antilles	ANG	98.00	100.00	100.20
Canada	CAD	1.78	1.80	1.82
Britain	GBP	2.79	2.84	2.90
Switzerland	CHF	190.34	191.06	191.86
Netherlands	EUR	228.42	230.50	232.82
Sweden	SEK	25.64	26.36	27.16
Denmark	DKK	29.94	30.66	31.46
Norway	NOK	30.04	30.76	31.56
Japan	JPY	221.06	223.08	225.32

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Finance

Facebook shares soar on earnings, mobile gains

Facebook shares soared yesterday after the company's earnings report showed it's making progress turning its mobile users into profits.

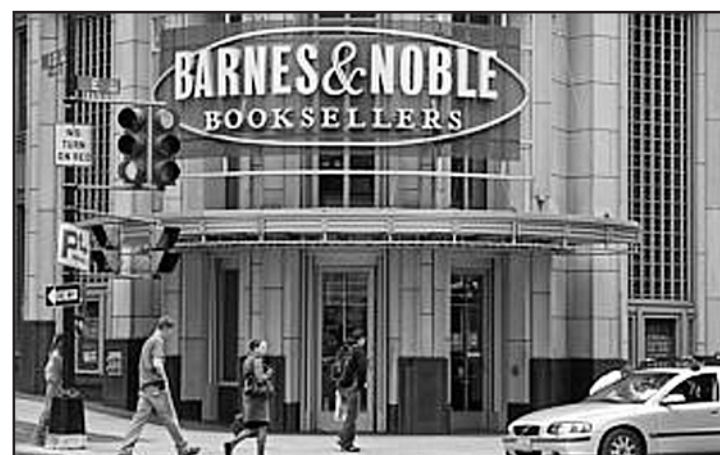
Shares of the No. 1 social networking company were up \$4.06, or 21%, to \$23.52 as investors parsed through the third-quarter earnings report released late Tuesday.

Facebook (FB) topped earnings expectations after adjusting for special charges, by



reporting earnings per share of 12 cents, topping estimates by a penny a share. The company's revenue also came in 32% higher at \$1.3 billion.

Barnes & Noble reports breach of US customer credit card data



(AFP) -- US retail firm Barnes & Noble said customers who have shopped as recently as last month at any of its 63 stores in the country may have their credit card information stolen, and has informed federal law enforcement authorities about the breach.

The company said in a statement it has disconnected all PIN pads from its stores nationwide by close of business Sept 14, upon detecting tampering of those devices.

As a precautionary meas-

ure, the company said customers and employees who have swiped their cards at any of the stores with affected PIN pads should change the PIN numbers on their debit cards and review their statements for any unauthorized transactions.

However, the company also said its customer database is secure. Purchases made on Barnes & Noble website, Nook e-reader and Nook mobile apps were not affected, it added.

Fed sticks to QE3 guns; economic growth 'moderate'

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The Federal Reserve confirmed yesterday its commitment to the six-week old QE3 stimulus program, saying that US economic growth remained at a "moderate" pace.

The US central bank's policy body kept its benchmark interest rate locked at 0-0.25 percent as expected, and said its highly accommodative monetary policy would stay in place "for a considerable time after the economic recovery strengthens."

Brushing off some recent signs of stronger growth, the Federal Open Market Committee said it "remains concerned that, without sufficient policy accommodation, economic growth might not be strong enough to generate sustained

improvement in labor market conditions."

It noted a rise in household spending and an improving housing industry, but said growth in business investment had slowed, and that the level of joblessness remains high.

The FOMC said in a statement that the US economy also remains vulnerable to strains in global financial markets.

The Fed said it would continue with its two stimulus programs, QE3 launched last

month and the nearly year-old "Operation Twist," through which it invests \$85 billion each month in bond purchases in an effort to drive down long-term interest rates to stimulate investment and hiring.

If the country's high unemployment situation does not improve "substantially", the FOMC said it will continue the existing program, add other asset purchase operations, and employ other monetary tools to boost the economy.

US sues Bank of America for \$1bn over bad mortgages

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States yesterday sued Bank of America for more than \$1 billion for allegedly having sold dodgy mortgages to state-controlled mortgage financiers Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

The government charged that Countrywide -- the mortgage giant now owned by Bank of America -- labeled defective mortgages as good-quality and sold them to the two companies, causing "over \$1 billion dollars in losses and countless foreclosures."

The suit says that between 2007 and 2009 Countrywide ran a mortgage origination program called "Hustle" which

aimed to quickly process thousands of new mortgages without quality controls and then sell them to Fannie and Freddie.

"The fraudulent conduct alleged in today's complaint was spectacularly brazen in scope," Preet Bahara, the US attorney in New York City, said in a statement.

"Countrywide and Bank of America made disastrously bad loans and stuck taxpayers with the bill," he said.

"This lawsuit should send another clear message that reckless lending practices will not be tolerated."

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

TANG	TAMER	SOBS
OHIO	ALONE	LIRE
GALL	SLADE	ALIA
ABED	MANOF	STEEL
WRAY	KEDS	
MAROON	FLAIR	
EMIRS	MAID	MOA
NICKEL	LAND	DIMING
UNO	ARGO	PELEE
	HACKS	ASTERS
VIAL	ASEA	
SILVER	BACK	LIST
ELIA	CACHE	MOLE
CLAN	METER	ALAN
TADA	PRESS	NAPS

Spend a fun evening with friends at Barney's



A place where you feel like you are with friends

A few months ago, Palm Beach welcomed a cozy new place that offers good food, great prices and a uniquely warm, welcoming ambiance that makes patrons feel as if they are visiting with friends rather than just eating out. Even the name, "Barney's", which was inspired by Barney Rubble of the Flintstones, is an expression of the good humor of its owners and your hosts, Ron and Elina.

Ron and Elina have a very congenial division of labor; he enjoys being bartender and playing around with his "cocktail of the day" while she sees to it that everyone is well satisfied with their meal. Chef Jan is in the kitchen doing his magic; patrons praise their spicy Firecracker Shrimp appetizer and mushrooms stuffed with escargot, priced at \$9.50 and \$8.50, or the Smoked Trout Fillet for a real gourmet treat.

They are particularly popular for their "Build Your Own Barney Burger" using specially imported organic beef from Holland, guaranteed to have been raised without steroids or antibiotics, only \$9.50 with fries and coleslaw. Patrons are handed a special hamburger checklist, which features a full menu of toppings, sauces and cheeses to cus-

tomize your order to create the ideal burger. One can also opt for a second or third ham-



Mojito anyone?

burger patty for a very nominal cost.

High end items on the menu, such as the Seafood Pasta, are only \$20.50. They



Tuna Steak a la Chef

also have a kid's menu with favorites such as a Kid's Burger, chicken fingers and Mac & Cheese; most items are only \$4. One regular described the place as particularly "kid-friendly," with

Elina, a mother herself, having devised a number of methods to keep young ones entertained. The menu has a range to please patrons who are in the mood for something simple while other can be indulgent gourmands.

Tuesday through Saturday evenings they have specialty nights at bargain rates. Tuesday is Schnitzel Night, with a choice of chicken or pork schnitzel prepared any of five ways, a platter with salad and side dish is \$17.50. Wednesday is "All you can eat grouper, prepared any of five ways, with veggies and side dish, \$19.50. Thursday they do it again with unlimited ribs done three ways for \$17.50 with salad, slaw and fries, Saturday means endless rib eye steak with salad and fries for \$19.50. Friday evening ends the work week with Karaoke Night, a convivial and fun evening when islanders kick back and let loose their inner rock star.

Barney's is located just next to the huge supermarket on the Palm Beach/Noord road, not far from the gas station. They are open from 5:00 to 11:00 PM and closed on Mondays. Check out their full menu at <http://www.barneysaruba.com> or call 586-5420 for reservations and directions.

Dutch art heist may be tied to Belgian cocaine bust: expert

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Last week's heist of paintings including a Picasso and Monets from a Dutch museum could be linked to the seizure of eight tonnes of cocaine in Belgium days earlier, a security expert said Wednesday.

The October 16 theft from Rotterdam's Kunsthall museum saw thieves disappear into the night with seven major artworks, the biggest such crime in 20 years, and is as yet unsolved, with police repeating appeals for witnesses.

"A senior police officer called me with the theory that the theft was linked to drug trafficking," Ton Cremers, a former head of security at the world-famous Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam, told AFP.

The paintings, worth between 50 million and 200 million euros according to different estimates, may have been taken to repay an underworld debt resulting from the seizure of the massive amount of cocaine in Antwerp just four days earlier.

"It's just a theory," said Cremers, now a museum security consultant, but "the possibility is great."

"In 20 years of this job I have observed very close links between art and drug trafficking," he said.

Cremers declined to say what nationality the police source was, except that it was neither Dutch nor Belgian.

The cocaine seized in the Belgian port city of Antwerp had a street value of 500 million euros (\$650 million), one of the biggest hauls ever made in Europe.

Detectives followed the suspected traffickers across the border to Rotterdam where a Belgian trucker was arrested along with four Dutch men.

Dutch police last week released security camera footage of the Kunsthall heist showing two thieves making off with two Monets, a Picasso, a Gauguin, a Matisse, a Freud and another painting in an operation lasting less than two minutes.

Muslim pilgrims flood Mina as hajj begins



MECCA, Saudi Arabia (AFP) - The annual hajj pilgrimage started in earnest Wednesday, with more than two million Muslims thronging roads on foot and by bus for a five-day journey of faith most have spent their entire lives waiting for.

The pilgrims, among them some 1.7 million who have travelled from across the world to be in Saudi Arabia for the rituals, began leaving the holy city of Mecca at dawn on Wednesday headed for the holy sites of Mina, Muzdalifah and Arafat.

In the arid valley of Mina, a pit-stop en route to Mount Arafat, pilgrims spend the night Wednesday in government provided tents and buildings, passing the time in prayer and reflection.

The passage to Mina marks the official launch of the hajj on the eighth day of the Muslim calendar month of Dhul

Hijja.

The day is known as Tarwiah (Watering) as pilgrims in the past stopped at Mina to feed their animals and stock up for the following day's trip to Mount Arafat.

Men dressed in the white shrouds symbolising resurrection chanted in unison as they marched towards Mina: "I am responding to your call, God."

The women, dressed from head to foot revealing only their faces and hands, echoed the religious chant.

In Mina, the desolate plain that only comes to life during the five days of hajj, men and women separate for the night, sharing tents with fellow pilgrims of the same sex.

Today, Arafat Day, is the climax of the hajj, when pilgrims ascend Mount Arafat, some 10 kilometres (six miles) southeast of Mina, to spend the day in prayer.

Rumoured Rolling Stones mini-gig sets Paris buzzing

PARIS (AFP) - Paris was awash with rumours Wednesday that rock legends the Rolling Stones will play a private concert in a small venue in the French capital next week. The 400-seat Mogador theatre where the gig will supposedly take place on Monday would say only that it had been booked for that date by Carmignac investment fund. Carmignac itself declined to comment, as did Universal, the Stones' record label. But French websites and Twitter were full of speculation that the ageing rockers would be taking to the stage at the Mogador next week. Stones guitarist Ronnie Wood told Britain's NME rock magazine this week that the band may perform under their Cockroaches guise in breaks from rehearsals currently taking place in Paris. Last week the band announced four major gigs in Britain and the United States to mark their 50th anniversary. The Stones' last concerts were in 2007.

Excellent dining, charming ambiance and a breathtaking view found only at La Trattoria El Faro Blanco

Over twenty years ago, a very clever person had the idea of placing a cozy little restaurant on the top of the cliff adjacent to the California Lighthouse, offering the most stunning view of Aruba imaginable. La Trattoria el Faro Blanco took over the location some years ago, and the restaurant's quaint trappings, superb selection and amenable staff has made it a one of the island's most popular dining spots ever since.

Savoring the sight of a spectacular Aruban sunset and the tiered layout of the eatery also makes it the ideal spot for marking a special occasion, such as an anniversary or a marriage proposal, as well as a perfect venue for weddings or a celebratory party. An extensive and diverse menu and wine list allows those planning a special festivity will be able to devise a memorable event and management is ready and willing to help you stay within your budget.

Many have taken note of this singular location as the place to go for that memorable romantic meal, and their reservation staff reports a waiting list for the rail tables that offer the best unobstructed view, recommending reservations well in advance if this is important to you.

The restaurant is now open from early in the day for refreshments, and is the perfect lunch stop while touring, serving from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM, after which visitors can enjoy a light snack from their Pizza Mini Menu until 6:00 PM when they officially open for dinner, until 11:00 PM.

All these aspects of charming surroundings, dining al fresco with a breathtaking view (or in their enclosed air-conditioned dining room, if you prefer) and fine food makes La Trattoria El Faro Blanco the single dining experience that must not be missed before departing Aruba. Reser-



Stunning sunset



ervations can be made by calling 586- 0786 or 586-0787, or via e-mail link at their website, www.aruba-latrattoria.com, where you can peruse their latest menu, as Chef Alberto is always devising some tasty new specialty to take advantage of what is fresh for the season.



Osso Buco with Risotto



Risotto Frutti de Mare



Buster's is back in Eagle Beach at Trop Casino



The home of the Beer Pong drinking game



A whopping cheese nachos w/chicken dish

Fans of Aruba's favorite sports bar are happy to hear that Buster's Garage has relocated to the restaurant/bar space inside Trop Casino. Now Eagle Beach resort guests have a great place for a bargain-priced

there is a game going on out there somewhere, we'll find it."

With giant screens everywhere throughout the joint, there isn't a bad seat in the house. Aside from their all day menu of game-watching favorites, they also feature a hearty breakfast menu. The "Grand Slam Platter" includes eggs any style, pancakes or waffles, bacon, juice, fresh made home fries with coffee or tea for only \$9. Lunch and dinner menus reflect the same moderate pricing

with required sports bar standards such as chicken wings, club sandwiches, burgers and a heaping helping of nachos, averaging \$9; pizza and main courses range from \$11 to \$15. Aside from the games and the gambling, patrons can ex-



Threesome, takes care of the entertainment

breakfast or a bucket of beer while rooting for the team of their choice.

Buster's has that great, homey feel of settling in to enjoy a game with buddies, greatly due to the warmth and enthusiasm of owner Rusty. He takes pride in making patrons feel welcome. "If somebody really needs to watch their home team on the field, we'll be happy to put it on for them," he confidently assured us. "We have 3 satellite dishes with separate packages to pick up every station imaginable. If

pect great entertainment three nights weekly with one of Aruba's most popular trios, "Threesome." There are also some wild times getting acquainted with Rusty's Beer Pong, the Drinking Game of Champions. Win or lose, players always end up with a smile on their face.

This family friendly place, with air hockey and video games for the kids, along with a special menu for young ones, is open 7 days a week from 7:30 AM until 1:00 AM for late night snacking and fun.

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SPORTS

UEFA Champions League:



Ajax' Siem de Jong cheers after scoring

AMSTERDAM (AFP) - The prospect of a second successive group-stage exit in the Champions League is staring Manchester City in the face after a 3-1 defeat at Ajax on Wednesday left them rock bottom of Group D.

The English champions were looking for their first win of the campaign, but despite taking the lead against the run of play through Samir Nasri, they fell to goals from Siem de

Jong, Niklas Moisander and Christian Eriksen in Amsterdam.

The visitors finished the game with Edin Dzeko, Sergio Aguero, Carlos Tevez and Mario Balotelli all on the pitch, but by the full-time whistle they found themselves looking down the barrel of another autumn elimination.

Ajax move into third place after claiming a first home win over English opposition since

1980, leaving City bottom of the pool with a solitary point to their name after three games.

Matters were compounded by Borussia Dortmund's 2-1 win at home to Real Madrid in the other game.

City now trail Dortmund by six points, Madrid by five points, and Ajax by two, and may need to win all three remaining games -- starting with the return fixture against Ajax on November 7 -- to stand any chance of going through.

At Montpellier, A last-gasp goal from substitute Kostas Mitroglou kept Greek champions' Olympiakos Champions League hopes alive with a 2-1 win over hosts Montpellier.

The Greek side left it late after trailing a goal down when Gaetan Charbonnier, playing just a few months ago in Ligue 2, scored his first European goal for the French champions just after the break.

But Olympiakos captain Vasilis Torosides grabbed the equaliser after 73 minutes, and Mitroglou, 24, scored a minute into injury time to give the Greek side their first points of the campaign.

Olympiakos are third in the Group B table after three games, with Montpellier taking over the bottom spot with one point as Germany's Schalke lead with seven points, one point ahead of English giants Arsenal.

Montpellier coach Rene Girard, who followed the match from the stands due to a touchline ban, had surprised by opting for Laurent Pionnier in goal over Geoffroy Jourden with Charbonnier up front.



LONDON (AFP) Arsenal's German striker Lukas Podolski (L) vies in the air with Schalke's German midfielder Marco Hoge (R) during a UEFA Champions League group B match. Schalke won 2-0.



DORTMUND (AFP) : Dortmund's midfielder Mario Goetze (L) and Real Madrid's Ghanaian midfielder Michael Essien (R) vie for the ball during the UEFA Champions League Group D match. Dortmund won 2-1.

European Champions League

PARIS, (AFP) results on Wednesday:

Group A

At Oporto, Portugal
Porto (POR) 3 v Dynamo Kiev (UKR) 2
At Zagreb
Dinamo Zagreb 0 (CRO) v Paris Saint Germain (FRA) 2

Group B

At London
Arsenal (ENG) 0 v Schalke 04 2 (GER)
At Montpellier, France
Montpellier (FRA) 1 v Olympiakos 2 (GRE)

Group C

At St Petersburg, Russia
Zenit St Petersburg (RUS) 1 v Anderlecht (BEL) 0
At Malaga, Spain
Malaga (ESP) 1 v AC Milan 0 (ITA)

Group D

At Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Ajax 3 (NED) v Manchester City 1 (ENG)
At Dortmund, Germany
Borussia Dortmund 2 (GER) v Real Madrid 1 (ESP)



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Bolt ready to try football after running at Rio

RIO DE JANEIRO (AFP) - Usain Bolt, the world record-holder at 100 and 200 meters, said he likes his chances at starting up a football career after he retires from athletics after the 2016 Rio de Janeiro Olympics.

"I would love to play," Bolt said. "I've played football. I've played charity matches. Something I really want to try."

"And after Rio, I'll just retire and just try and see if I'm any good in soccer, but I think I'd be pretty good because I play with my friends. I've played charity matches in Jamaica. I think I'm pretty good."

If he does make a leap onto the pitch, his signature "light-



ning Bolt" stance could serve as a stellar goal celebration move.

After winning Olympic gold at Beijing in 2008 and London this past August, Bolt will try to "three-peat" at Rio in the 100, 200 and with the Jamaican 4x100m relay.

Bolt, a Manchester United supporter, had looked at the long jump for Rio but wants to ease the punishment on his knees.

"The plan was the long jump maybe before the Olympics

but I've talked to my coach (Glen Mills) and he showed a little concern about the fact long jumps always create problems for the knees," Bolt said.

Even Bolt at age 26 must fight to keep Father Time at bay for four more years.

"Depends on how I manage these four years," Bolt said. "I'm thinking that if I do my time, try not to work too hard... I can work over those four years."

"It should be OK. I'm not really worried."

Tennis: Serena in fraught win..... continued from page 16

About the smashed racket, she said: "I guess I was angry and I wasn't able to control myself. But sometimes I play better when I get angry."

She may though need to play better in her remaining group match if she is to maintain her outstanding record against world number one Victoria Azarenka, who may be aching to atone for losing the US Open final from 5-3 up in the final set.

Kvitova meanwhile was not herself during the 6-3, 6-2 loss to Agnieszka Radwanska, the Wimbledon runner-up from Poland, in their opening group match Tuesday, ending it angry and tearful.

"After one rally I couldn't breathe, I was shaking all the

match, and my stomach felt really funny. If I'm not a hundred percent to compete with these girls at this level I know I can't play."

"I thought at first it was nerves, but normally nerves are gone after the first set. It went on all through the match, so then I thought there was something wrong. That's why I have pulled out."

She has been replaced by Samantha Stosur, the former US Open champion from Australia, who can still qualify for Saturday's semi-finals if she wins the remaining two matches in the white group, against Maria Sharapova, the second seed, and Sara Errani, the French Open runner-up.

Football: England's PFA announces anti-racism action plan

LONDON (AFP) - The Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) responded to a spate of racism controversies on Wednesday by publishing a six-point action plan to combat discrimination in the sport.

PFA chief executive Gordon Taylor has called for stricter punishments for racial abuse, including making it a potentially sackable offence, and wants culprits to be obliged to attend awareness programmes.

The plans also include an initiative to introduce a form of the 'Rooney rule', which was introduced by the NFL in the United States in 2003 to ensure qualified black coaches get a place on interview lists for job vacancies.

Taylor has reacted to frustrations aired by Reading striker Jason Roberts, who sparked a boycott of the anti-racism 'Kick It Out' campaign last weekend after complaining that not enough was being done to combat racism in the game.

The PFA's six-point plan is as follows: "1. Speeding up the process of dealing with reported racist abuse with close monitoring of any incidents.

"2. Consideration of stiffer

penalties for racist abuse and to include an equality awareness programme for culprits and clubs involved.

"3. An English form of the 'Rooney rule' ... to make sure qualified black coaches are on interview lists for job vacancies.

"4. The proportion of black coaches and managers to be monitored and any inequality or progress highlighted.

"5. Racial abuse to be considered gross misconduct in player and coach contracts (and therefore potentially a sackable offence).

"6. To not to lose sight of other equality issues such as gender, sexual orientation, disability, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and Asians in football."

Taylor also used the opportunity to call for unity in the fight against racism, amid reports that players were moving to form a breakaway union for black footballers.

FA chairman David Bernstein announced on Tuesday that the governing body will review the sanctions for racist abuse following the John Terry case but said the Chelsea's captain's four-match ban for abusing Anton Ferdinand was "about right".

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Formula One: Vettel is new German Mister F1, says Schumacher

BERLIN (AFP) - With four Grand Prix races left before his second retirement, seven-time world champion Michael Schumacher has said Sebastian Vettel is his obvious successor as Germany's "Mister Formula One".

Red Bull's Vettel is on course to claim his third world driver's championships title with a narrow lead at the top of the table over Fernando Alonso ahead of Sunday's India Grand Prix.

The German has won the last three races.

Britain's Lewis Hamilton will replace Schumacher at

Mercedes next season and the German said his successor will benefit from the work he has put in with his team over the last three years.

Having won the last of his seven world titles in 2004, Schumacher retired in 2006 which changed into a hiatus from the sport before he joined Mercedes in 2010.

But he advises others against following his example and returning from retirement.

"There has to be some sense behind it. I have seen examples where people return and are hopelessly out driven," he said. "To get con-

firmed that you are no longer good enough is of course a negative thing.

He said there was no suggestion from Mercedes that he should quit at the end of the season when his three-year deal expires.

Having only enjoyed modest success in his three seasons back in Formula One, Schumacher has stood on the podium just once since his return, which he said has helped ease the hype around his second retirement.

Schumacher admitted the humbling experience has changed him in some ways.

Tennis: Serena in fraught win, Kvitova pulls out



ISTANBUL (AFP) - Serena Williams overcame the emotions which impelled her to smash a racket and earned her a code violation warning before advancing to the verge of the semi-finals of the WTA Championships.

The 31-year-old American will be the oldest player ever to win the WTA title if she goes all the way, and a new champion earlier became certain when Petra Kvitova, the titleholder from the Czech Republic, withdrew, apparently with a virus.

Williams, the Olympic, US Open and Wimbledon champion, came through 7-6 (7/2), 6-3 against Li Na, the former French Open champion from China, in a tense, noisy, and surprisingly fraught affair in which she never seemed fully at ease.

Williams was 1-3 down, then let slip a break of serve, and was pegged back to 6-6 in the first set, before surviving the tie-breaker.

She then yelled and scrambled and battled her way through five deuces before winning a pivotal fifth game in the second set.

Her second win here was more a triumph of will than anything else, for she landed less than 50 percent of her first serves - so often her best

weapon - dropped service games five times, and needed an hour and 50 minutes before she prevailed.

Williams reflected: "I lost serve today more often than all of Wimbledon. I was just thinking about it too much. I didn't serve well yesterday (Tuesday) and I thought about it. I just need not to think."

Certainly Li sometimes returned serve well, and often went for broke with fierce flat-hit drives, which made it hard for Williams to achieve an attacking dominance and often forced her to scramble.

But Williams' unease may also have been caused by lack of match play - until Tuesday she had not competed at all in the six weeks since winning the US Open in New York - or perhaps even uncertainty about her fitness.

The racket-smashing incident occurred during a weird fourth game in which one of the finest servers in the history of the game delivered two successive double faults to go a break down.

Yet Williams is also one of the most resilient fighters, as well as one of the most dangerous of one-strike attackers, and these tough qualities helped see her through.

continues on page 15

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